

# **Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD):**

## **Environmental Goods and Services**

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# TESSD

- ▶ Launched on 17 November 2020 by 50 Members
- ▶ **Coordinators:** Canada and Costa Rica
- ▶ **Objectives:**
  - ▶ To complement and intensify work on trade and environmental sustainability at the WTO
  - ▶ To promote concrete actions and work on deliverables to increase the supportiveness of trade and environment
- ▶ **77 co-sponsors** representing around 85% of world trade
- ▶ **Inclusive approach:** open to all Members and actively seek the engagement of stakeholders from the private sector, civil society, international organizations and academia
- ▶ **4 informal working groups:** (i) trade-related climate measures; (ii) environmental goods and services; (iii) circular economy - circularity; and (iv) subsidies
- ▶ [TESSD website](#) and [brief](#)

# TESSD OUTCOMES AT 13TH WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

The TESSD package for MC13 included a Statement by the Co-convenors, an updated Work Plan and outcome documents of the four Informal Working Groups, which identified opportunities for promoting trade in renewable goods and services and provide guidance for policymaking. In particular, Members have identified:

- ▶ practices to guide the design and implementation of trade-related climate measures;
- ▶ renewable energy goods and services that are key for the energy transition;
- ▶ trade-related action areas to support a circular economy;
- ▶ considerations that can guide subsidy design to benefit the environment while avoiding trade-distortions.

## Documents

- ▶ Statement by TESSD Co-convenors (WT/MIN(24)/11)
- ▶ Update of the TESSD Work Plan (WT/MIN(24)/11/Add.1)
- ▶ Member Practices in the development of trade-related climate measures (TrCMs) (\* /Add.2)
- ▶ **Analytical Summary (\* /Add.3) of discussions on EGS and renewable energy**
- ▶ Circular Economy Mapping Exercise: Trade and trade policy aspects along the lifecycle of products (\* /Add.4)
- ▶ Compilation of experiences and considerations regarding subsidy design (\* /Add.5)

# WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS AND SERVICES - SCOPE OF WORK

## ► Ministerial Statement (December 2021 - WT/MIN(21)/6/Rev.2)

- “Explore opportunities and possible approaches for promoting and facilitating trade in environmental goods and services to meet environmental and climate goals, including through addressing supply chain, technical and regulatory elements;”
- “Identify and compile best practices, as well as explore opportunities for voluntary actions and partnerships to ensure that trade and trade policies are supportive of and contribute to: ....(iii) promoting and facilitating access to environmental goods and services, including encouraging the global uptake of new and emerging low-emissions and other climate friendly technologies; “

## ► Updated Work Plan (February 2024 - WT/MIN(24)/11/Add.1)

- The Working Group on Environmental Goods and Services (EGS) will continue an objective-based approach and examine sector-specific issues involved in the promotion and facilitation of trade in EGS, as well as the identification of climate-friendly technologies. Particular attention will be given to issues of interest to developing countries. Where appropriate, the Working Group will examine cross-sectoral approaches with regard to EGS. Under the objective of climate change mitigation and adaptation, the Group will continue its work on renewable energy and add other sectors or technologies related to climate change, including adaptation and mitigation. The Working Group will further develop the analytical summary as an outcome document, covering indicative lists of relevant goods and services, trade barriers, including non-tariff barriers, and supply chain bottlenecks, developing country perspectives, and opportunities and approaches to promote and facilitate trade in these goods and services, and explore concrete actions that Members could further undertake.

# OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF WG OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS AND SERVICES

- ▶ Analytical Summary (WT/MIN(24)/11/Add.3) of discussions on environmental goods and services and renewable energy
  - ▶ Living document
- ▶ The document identifies
  - I. indicative lists of renewable energy goods and services, including goods such as photovoltaic cells for solar energy, gearboxes for wind turbines, generators for hydropower, and electrolyzers for green hydrogen production, and services such as engineering, testing and analysis, environmental consulting, operation, maintenance and repair, and recycling.
  - II. trade barriers and supply chain bottlenecks,
  - III. developing country perspectives and
  - IV. opportunities and approaches for promoting and facilitating trade in these goods and services.

# Next steps...

## And Thank you!